

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OREP (MATSUNAGA, REPRESENTATIVE SPARK M.)

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL: REPRESENTATIVE SPARK M.

MATSUNAGA

1. REPRESENTATIVE SPARK M. MATSUNAGA, DEMOCRATIC DEPUTY WHIP AND MEMBER OF HOUSE DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND POLICY COMMITTEE, RULES COMMITTEE, AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE, MAY VISIT PHILIPPINES FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS AROUND MAY 30. HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS SPECIAL ASSISTANT DR. Y. PING CHEN. MATSUNAGA PLANS ARE TENTATIVE, DEPENDENT UPON FITTING MANILA INTO CROWDED SCHEDULE OF VISITS TO OTHER CAPITALS. HIS OFFICE WILL BE DISCUSSING PLANS WITH PHIL EMBASSY HERE, BUT SEES NO NEED FOR EMBASSY TO INFORM GOP UNTIL DECISION ON VISIT IS FIRM. IN LIGHT OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES AS MEMBER OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADERSHIP IN HOUSE, MATSUNAGA DESIRES TO FAMILIARIZE HIMSELF WITH U.S.-GOP RELATIONS. AS PART OF FAMILIARIZATION, MATSUNAGA WISHES TO CALL ON PRESIDENT MARCOS.

2. DR. CHEN INQUIRED WHAT OTHER ACTIVITIES MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR A ONE OR TWO-DAY VISIT. (IF MATSUNAGA COULD STAY ONLY ONE DAY, CHEN WOULD REMAIN SOMEWHAT LONGER.) ASSUMING A TWO-DAY VISIT, AND ALSO ASSUMING THAT MARCOS WOULD SEE MATSUNAGA, EA/PHL SUGGESTED OTHER ITEMS:

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A. CALL ON AMBASSADOR AND MEETING WITH OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS FOR APPROPRIATE BRIEFING ; FYI MATSUNAGA IS INTERESTED IN VISA OPERATIONS AND PROBLEMS IN PHILIPPINES. END FYI.

B. CONTACT WITH SEVERAL KEY OFFICIALS, E.G., MELCHOR, SICAT, VIRATA;

C. MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY;

D. SOME CONTACT WITH RESPECTABLE NON-REGIME OR OPPOSITION ELEMENTS, E.G., ARCHBISHOP SIN OR EX-SENATOR SALONGA; AND

E. BRIEF VISIT TO U.S. BASE, PERHAPS SUBIC.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEWS, PARTICULARLY REGARDING EMBASSY CALLS AND CONTACTS WITH OPPOSITION. WE MADE CLEAR THESE WERE TENTATIVE SUGGESTIONS, WHICH MUST BE REVIEWED BY EMBASSY IN LIGHT OF PRESENT MANILA SITUATION.

KISSINGER

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To: MANILA
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